FOCUS AREAS

- ♦ Access to quality, affordable, safe and culturally inclusive education.
- ♦ Access to quality, affordable and culturally appropriate health and social services.
- ♦ Equitable participation in economic, community and workforce development.
- ◊ Just human and civil rights, including immigrant and refugee justice.



CAPAA'S FUNCTIONS

In order to meet its mission, the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs serves several functions and roles. Among them are:

- Research and analysis. To examine and define
 AAPI issues and to make recommendations to the
 governor, legislators, and state agencies with
 respect to desirable changes in program and law.
- Advisory and advocacy. To advise the Governor, state and local public officials on the development and implementation of comprehensive and coordinated policies, plans, and programs focusing on the special issues and needs of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.
- ♦ Education. To educate the AAPI community about laws, programs, and policies that affect its well-being.
- ♦ Conduit and consultant. To make government more accessible by serving as a conduit and consultant between AAPI communities and state agencies.
- ♦ Resource. To serve as a resource through educational materials, technical assistance, agency referrals, casework, and community forums.

MISSION

To improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas.

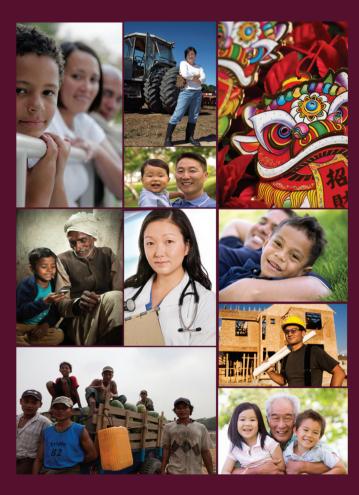
(Chapter 43.117 RCW)



CAPAA

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COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS



CAPAA

HISTORY



Due to pervasive discrimination and barriers in accessing government services, a group of local Asian American and Pacific Islander community members met with the Governor in 1971 to examine a broad range of issues facing the population in the

areas of employment, education, social services, community development, immigration, and civil rights. In January 1972, Governor Evans created The State Asian Advisory Council by executive order. On February 26, 1974, the 43rd Washington State Legislature formally created The State of Washington Commission on Asian American Affairs as a state agency. On April 17, 1995, Governor Mike Lowry signed a bill to change the Commission's name to The State of Washington Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (CAPAA) to include Pacific Islanders.

The CAPAA's 36 year history marks a legacy of advocacy, community education, and outreach, as well as interagency and community collaborations to improve the well-being of the AAPI communities. Among its past and current activities are:

- ♦ Establishes and maintains AAPI organizations and coalitions to address AAPI issues.
- Organizes and helps coordinate AAPI conferences and community forums to identify, prioritize, and address AAPI issues.
- Works with state agencies and community organizations to address legislation on a federal and local level.
- ♦ Issues reports on the state of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Washington.
- ♦ Updates communities on legislation and policy making.
- ♦ Serves on committees and task forces providing a voice for the AAPI community.
- Coordinates statewide APA Heritage Month celebrations in the month of May and assists with APA Legislative Day.

B U I L D I N G RELATIONSHIPS

The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs is committed to cultivating and nurturing relationships among AAPI communities and the state government as well as strengthening relationships between ethnic communities. We respond to the needs of the community by working with the Governor, the state legislature, state agencies, the private sector, and the AAPI communities on issues that concern AAPIs to bring about positive change and long-term solutions. We inform the AAPI community about legislation, policies, and programs that affect their well-being.



ADVISORY BOARD

The Commission has an advisory board made up of 12 Governor-appointed commissioners representing the state's rich diversity. Each commissioner serves a three-year term and may serve for two consecutive terms. Commission meetings are open to the public.



POPULATION

Washington has the fastest growing AAPI population out of the states with a high AAPI percentage. The total number of AAPIs has increased from 110,052 in 1980 to 674,573 in 2010. This rapid growth is partly due to the influx of Southeast Asian refugees and immigrants.

AAPIs constitute over 47 ethnic groups rich in their own cultural traditions, languages, and histories. They enhance cultural diversity and greatly contribute to the social, political and economic makeup of Washington State.

Counties with largest number of the state's total AAPIs in 2010

King: 353,702 or 52.4% of total state AAPIs

• Pierce: 85,743 or 12.7%

• Snohomish: 84,201 or 12.5%

• Clark: 28,146 or 4.2%

Kitsap: 23,064 or 3.4%Thurston: 21.728 or 3.2%

• Spokane: 18,545 or 2.7%

2010 AAPI population by ethnicity

• Chinese: 94,198 or 14.0% of total state AAPIs

Filipino: 91,367 or 13.5%Vietnamese: 66.575 or 9.9%

• Korean: 62,374 or 9.2%

Asian Indian: 61,124 or 9.1%

• Japanese: 35,008 or 5.2%

• Samoan: 13,110 or 1.9%

• Guam: 9,746 or 1.4%

• Hawaiian: 5,861 or .9%

• Others: 82,179 or 12.2%

 AAPIs of combined ethnicity: 153,031 or 22.7% Examples of AAPI Languages

Amoy
Bangla
Bengali
Bhojpuri
Biblo
Burmese
Butuanon
Cambodian (Khmer)
Cantonese
Cebuano
Chamorro
Chow-Chew
Dzongkha
English

FaaSamoa Fijan French Gujarati Hakka Hangchouese Hawaiian Hiligaynon Hindi-Urdu Hmong Ibang Ilocano

Indonesian
Japanese
Kankayaey
Kannada
Kmhmu
Korean
Laotian

Laotian Maighali Malay Malayalam Mandarin Marathi

Mien
Nepalese
Pampongo
Pangasinan
Punjabi
Pushtu

Pushtu Putonghua Samoan Sanskrit Shanghai Sinhalese

Sindhi Soochouese Tagalog Tahitian

Taiwanese Tamil Telugu Thai

Thai Tibetan Toishanese

Tongan Tulu Urdu Vietnamese

Visayan Waray-Waray